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CLASSIFICATION

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Possibly presaging an impending purge in the legal profession is an unsigned 3000-word IZVESTIA article (23 January) on the need of overhauling the business of law-writing whose "stale atmosphere" (zatkhlaya obstanovka) has not yet been affected by the "refreshing wind" (svezhiy veter) of criticism and self-criticism. Soviet juridical science is said to be definitely "behind the times" and a close scrutiny of this branch of research is long overdue. There are indications that this denunciation of legal science is connected with the general controversy reportedly aroused by Stalin's BOLSHEVIK article; IZVESTIA reveals that the work of some of the outstanding legal experts is shot through with elements of "subjectivism and idealism"--the errors for which certain Soviet economists "are subjected to devastating criticism" (podvergnuty unichtozhayuschei kritike) by Stalin. The Institute of Law of the USSR Academy of Sciences and the All-Union Institute of Juridical Sciences are called to account for having failed in their duty: they have not become "indefatigable fighters against manifestations of scholasticism and dogmatism, against the infiltration of bourgeois ideology into Soviet legal science." The organ of these Institutes, SOVETSKOYE GOSUDARSTVO I PRAVO (The Soviet State and Law) is not living up to its role as a militant journal (boyevoy zhurnal) of the Soviet legal profession. It is said to have replaced principles by "lack of principles" (bezprintsipialnost), and that most of the important legal issues treated on its pages are discussed and decided in an atmosphere of "family solidarity" where criticism is unknown and obviously undesirable.

Among the professors of law, academicians and other noted legal experts whose works are said to range from "fruitless" (besplodnie) to "obviously influenced by bourgeois ideology" are

Acad. M. Strogovitch	Acad. A. Trainin
Prof. N. Polyansky	Prof. A. Piontkovsky
J. Eisenstat	M. Arshanov
A. Gersenson	E. Korovin
Sh. Greengaus	Z. Chernilovsky
D. Henkin	N. Alexandrov
N. Rabinovitch	K. Baginyan
A. Karp	M. Lazarev
M. Isayev	N. Durmanov

(Although at least half of the legal experts listed above appear to have Jewish-sounding names, there is no reference to them as Jews)

Chernilovsky's treatise on the "State Structure of the Chinese People's Republic" and Eisenstat's similar work on Bulgaria's state structure are referred to as "pernicious" (vrednie) monographs, the publication of which was made possible only in the "atmosphere of shameless self-praise" (obstanovka bessastenchivogo samovoskhvalenia) prevailing at the All-Union Institute of Juridical Sciences. Prof. Polyansky "openly affirms" (pryamo utverzhdayet) in his law books that Soviet legislation has in a number of cases "borrowed" bourgeois legal forms. Viewed as another major heresy is his thesis that unrestrained reaction in the United States and England and the destruction of "every vestige" of bourgeois-democratic rights in those countries are merely "a deviation from their historical path" (uklonenie ot ikh istoricheskogo puti). Similar aspersions are cast on Academician Strogovitch, some of whose works are said to convey the impression of "open praise" (pryamoye voskhvalenie) for bourgeois law. Thus in his textbook on "Criminal Court Trials" he goes so far as to say that democratic methods of criminal procedure "found their fullest and most consistent realization" (nashli naiboleye polnoye i posledovatelnoye osushchestvleniye) in England. What the Academician obviously forgot, it is pointed out, is what Engels had to say about the same subject, namely that the English court "is the final stage in the process of juridical lies and immorality."

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Soviet legal science is said to have been neglected to such an extent that many of the Institutes have failed to hold the interests of their post-graduate students, and the result is "a great shrinkage" (bolshoy otsey) of the student body. Only about 30 percent of all the post graduates managed to write acceptable theses on legal science during the period of 1947-1952. Even the objectionable legal terminology, "the trash (khlam) brought in from the arsenal of bourgeois legal science," has not yet been eliminated. Soviet legal experts are not playing "an active part" (aktivnaya rol) in the codification of "all-union laws" (obshchесоyuznie zakony) which is one of their prime duties. Nor have they shown any inclination to reorient themselves in keeping with the changing international situation. Implying that the leading jurists have failed to look for inspiration and guidance to the only source, Stalin's article on economic problems of Socialism in USSR, the article stresses that his work is:

a key to the correct understanding of the international situation, of the changes in the distribution of forces on the world arena and the changes in international legal relations resulting therefrom.

Russian text:

klyuch k pravilnomu ponimaniyu mezhdunarodnoy obstanovki, izmeneniy v rasstanovke sil na mirovoy arene i vytekeyushchikh otsyuda izmeneniy v mezhdunarodno-pravovykh otnosheniakh.

Implicated also as having contributed to the "extremely unsatisfactory" situation in the legal profession are the USSR Ministries of Higher Education and Justice. They are not exercising "proper control" over the activities of scientific research institutes, and are not taking any steps, as the paper puts it, to reconstruct their own activities in the light of Stalin's analysis of the "peculiarities of commodity production and the operation of the law of value under Socialism." (osobennosti tovarnogo proizvodstva i deistvia zakona stoimosti pri sotsializme).

(It may be recalled, in this connection, that in his speech to the 19th Party Congress Ploskrebyshev dealt at some length with the necessity of "streamlining" Soviet legislation. He said that too much time had been wasted by Soviet lawyers attempting to define such secondary issues as "guilt and culpability" (vina i vinovnost) while the preparation of drafts of the most important all-union laws was neglected. There is a vast field for Soviet legal experts, he indicated, in the study of really topical questions of State and law. One of them is the unification of the various branches of Soviet legislation on an all-union scale in the light of Stalin's teachings on "the basis and superstructure" and the economic problems of Socialism.)

Wanted: More Vigilance: The cry for intensified ideological and political vigilance on the part of every Soviet citizen that was raised almost simultaneously with the disclosure of the Jewish doctors' "plot" to poison leading Party and military personalities continues unabated. Discussion of the vigilance theme is indeed so widespread that it has heard from such sources as Sumy (Ukraine) and Saransk (Mordovian ASSR) which normally do not engage in ideological discourses. In an editorial on the subject, STALINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA (27 January) quotes Lenin as having insisted that every Communist must be a "Chekist" (member of the Cheka, MVD's predecessor). That statement, says the paper, applies with equal force to the present situation: every Soviet patriot, every good citizen must also become a good Chekist who jealously guards the interests of the State against its enemies. The American and British "imperialists" are sending their spies, diversionists and murderers into "all lands" but they are attempting to send twice or three times the number of wreckers and murderers into our country than into any other country, the paper says.

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Referring to the "chronic malignancy" of the concealed enemies among the Soviet people, the paper warns that "they are still among us" and only rigid and never-ceasing vigilance will counteract their harmful activities. One does not have to go far to look for those twin evils of "complacency and dawdling" which, invariably play into the enemy's hands. The people of Stalingrad Oblast, it is asserted, are not sufficiently security conscious: one can often witness the spectacle of important documents left lying about on desks in open rooms. The Oblast Consumers Union's network and other trading organizations are said to have been "infiltrated by doubtful and unreliable persons," and that applies also to the Oblast Administration for Cotton Cultivation and Public Health Department. The work of the Pass Bureau (byuro propuskov--which issues visitors' permits to enter certain important enterprises) as well as the "state of external and internal security" (sostoyanie vneshnei i vnutrennei okhrany) of Soviet establishments and enterprises must be thoroughly improved.

The "charity" (blagotvoritelnost) of the Jewish "Joint" has now been completely exposed for what it actually is, says PRAVDA UKRAINY on 20 January. This international "Jewish bourgeois-nationalist organization," an American espionage agency, thrives on the fertile soil of our "private-ownership psychology" survivals. We still have "partisans of bourgeois outlook and bourgeois morals" and they are live people (zhivye lyudi) determined to undermine the structure of the State: COPYRIGHT

Foreign intelligence recruits the spies and murderers from the remnants of the crushed groups inimical to the Soviet regime, from the various kinds of nationalist elements, morally unstable and decayed people.

BUGSKAYA ZARYA says editorially (22 January) that attempts to undermine the might of the Soviet state will continue, and the recently exposed gang of "doctor-poisoners" is one more proof that the mortal enemies of the Fatherland "have not laid down their weapons." We must learn to recognize our enemies no matter under what toga they are hidden, and this can be accomplished only with the weapon provided by Lenin and Stalin: security consciousness. A summarized version of a ZNAMYA KOMMUNIZMA editorial, broadcast from Odessa on 20 January, speaks of the "opportunistic complacency, carelessness, yawning spirit and blindness" as the greatest obstacles to revolutionary vigilance which should not be relaxed for a single moment. An article by Party lecturer Simashkov, broadcast from Vinnitsa on 21 January, says that "bourgeois opposition" to the Soviet state increases in proportion to our "successes," and that the country had been forewarned against it by Lenin and Stalin. Ideological vigilance must therefore be intensified "on all sides," and that implies also a further consolidation of the armed forces and intelligence services.

Most of the regional editorial comment on the vigilance campaign contains reference to the class struggle as one of the basic features of Soviet life now and in the foreseeable future. All editorial strictures against complacency and self-satisfaction are geared to the concept that even now, during the transition from Socialism to Communism, such a state of mind is incompatible with the reality of Soviet life, that is the continued class struggle. Typical of these broadcasts is a lengthy RADYANSKA UKRAINA editorial of 23 January. Heartened by the growing successes of Socialism in our country, the paper says, "some people began to talk about the disappearance of the class struggle. Such views, it is emphasized, 'have nothing in common' with our Party--they are in fact anti-Party views held by 'degenerates and two-faced' persons who ought to be kicked out of the Party.

The elimination of classes is attained not by the disappearance of the class struggle but by the intensification of the class struggle.

Ukrainian text:

Znyshchennya klassiv dosyagayetsya ne shliakhom zagasannya klassovoi borotby, a shliakhom ii posylennya.

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Wishful thinking "will not replace" high political vigilance nor will it help us expose all sorts of subversive activities and sabotage by the "hidden enemies" among us. Recalled in this connection is the recently-exposed "band of counterrevolutionary saboteurs" which operated in the Kiev Oblast Consumer Industry under the direction of Khain and Yaroshetsky:

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What else but complacency and the lowering of political vigilance in the Ukrainian Ministry of Commerce, in the leading Party, Soviet and prosecuting organs ... could explain the existence of such large-scale long-unpunished counterrevolutionary sabotage of the Khain clique and other crimes?

Ukrainian text:

Chym inshym, yak ne rotoziystvom, yak ne prytyplennyam politychnoi tsilnosti v Ministerstvi Torgivli URSR, v kerivnykh, partynnykh, radyanskykh i slidchykh organakh ... moshna poyasnyty fakt takogo shyrokooho i dovghy chas beskarnogo kontrrevolutsiynogo shkidnytstva sgrai Khaina, yaki inshi slochyny?

The mentioned saboteurs, it is disclosed, were aided and abetted by former secretary of the Kiev Oblast Party Committee Rakin, who "came to an understanding with them," while another former Secretary of the same committee, Grysa, is said to be no less guilty: he failed to detect Rakin's "anti-Party behavior" in time. It all points to the paramount necessity of "ideological hardening" and intensified vigilance on all fronts, the paper concludes. Complacency manifested at a time when Anglo-American "imperialists acting through their agents, the Jewish "doctor-poisoners," are attempting to undermine the Soviet state from within and deprive us of the fruits of our socialist victories is nothing but "an idiotic disease" (idiotska khvoroba). Stressing the need for greater precautions in the admission of new members to the Party, the editorial refers obliquely to "the saturation of leading posts with unchecked and even alien people" who should be smoked out of there by constant criticism from below and a struggle against dawdling and light-headedness. Every Communist and patriotic Soviet citizen must "study our enemies and their ways" so that they can be exposed and dealt with by the State.

A SOTSIALISTICHESKIY DONBAS editorial transmitted from Stalino on 23 January reiterates the revived slogan that the class struggle, far being "extinguished," is becoming more acute. This point is driven home by the assertion that the imperialist enemies, in attempting to subvert the Soviet state, "are not squeamish" about making use of the erroneous notion "held by some of our people" that the class struggle is "withering away." The enemy is becoming more "insidious and cunning," and as long as he can find willing tools among our "morally unstable and degenerate" people and "kindle their unhealthy and inimical feelings" he will continue to do so. The worship of the West and manifestations of nationalism are referred to as some of the mentioned "unhealthy" feelings.

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As a result of the political complacency of certain leaders ... in some organizations, people doing criminal anti-state work penetrate materially responsible posts As long as there are dawdlers, the malefactors, spies, diversionists and criminals live happily.

The increase in "aggressive vigilance," says ZARYA VOSTOKA on 25 January, is not just a campaign and should not be considered as such. It must become a permanent and active weapon in the hands of every Communist and every worker of our Republic.

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This injunction is reiterated in view of the fact that "unpunished loafing" is still a common phenomenon in many places while "morally weak and corrupt people contaminated by capitalist vestiges" are still at ease.

An anonymous article broadcast from Odessa on 24 January says that wherever courageous leadership is lacking "anti-Leninist groups are trying to take over" and spread all sorts of non-Marxist views and concepts. The political-ideological education of the Ukrainian intelligentsia is "still backward," and the lag in Ukrainian Soviet literature, art and educational work in general is yet to be eliminated. Assailed also is the lukewarm attitude on the part of "considerable groups of the population" toward the study and propagation of Party Congress materials and Stalin's speech.

A long article on political vigilance published in the January issue of KOMMUNIST (former BOLSHEVIK) by Secretary of the Leningrad Oblast Party Committee Kozlov, suggests that the decision on the political vigilance campaign preceded the disclosure of the doctors' "plot." Possibly because the periodical was off the press before the plot was announced in the papers, 13 January, there is no reference in the mentioned article to the now familiar Jewish "spies and foreign agents," but Kozlov's treatment of the vigilance issue bears some of the earmarks of the present output on the topic. The agents of foreign intelligence services, it is pointed out, are desperately looking for "weak and vulnerable spots" (slabie i neuyazvime mesta) and they apparently find them among the unstable elements of our society. In the postwar years the Leningrad Oblast Party has seen an influx of tens of thousands new members into its ranks but the screening of these newcomers has been anything but thorough. The result is that many people "unworthy of political trust," and at times even hostile elements, wormed their way into Party posts. To cite but one example, says Kozlov: a former member of the counter-revolutionary Bund (a Jewish social-democratic party disbanded shortly after the advent of Bolshevism), after having been expelled from the Party twice, managed to get in a third time. But that is not an isolated case, and only acute vigilance on our part will keep such elements out of the Party.

Too many local Party organizations are prone to look upon the loss of Party membership and candidate's cards as a "minor violation" (melkiy prostupok). Little do they realize that such lost documents may fall into the enemy's hands. Henceforth, it is intimated, the loss of credentials will be considered "a crime before the Party" (prestuplenie pered partiyey). All too frequently Party leaders "do not see the difference between open and secret Party meetings" and treat State secrets as they see fit.

An unnamed "leader" (rukovodyashchiy rabotnik), it is disclosed, has recently been expelled from the Party for "blabbing out" (vybaltyval) state secrets. Reference to other previously unmentioned casualties of what appears to be an unpublicized ideological investigation in Leningrad includes Professors Kornatovskiy and Bernshtam. The first of these is alleged to have

disseminated anti-Marxian views under the guise of propaganda, and injected political perversions in his lectures.

CPYRGHT

Russian text:

propagandiroval v zamaskirovannom vide anti-mark-sistskie vzglyady, dopuskal v lektsiyakh politicheskie isvrashchenia.

Prof. Bernshtam of the "Lesgaft" Institute of National Sciences, along with some of his colleagues, is said to "continue to maintain their anti-Pavlov views" (prodolzhayut stoyat na antipavlovskikh pozitsiyakh). His latest book "Historico-Archeological Sketches of Central Tyan-Shan and Pamiro-Altai," just like his previous publication on the "History of the Huns," is replete with perversions of the crudest type (grubeishie isvrashchenia).

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The nature of the mentioned ideological errors, however, is not explained.

Turning to the field of art, Kozlov says that a checkup on the performance of the State Scientific-Research Institute of the Theatre and Art revealed that it has been behind its plans from year to year. As to the actual quality of the Institute's output, the situation is still more serious from an ideological point of view and is summed up in the following observation:

The following practice has been established there: work of no actual significance, such as the 'History of Ancient Russian Church Music,' is rushed to press while the most important themes of Marxist-Leninist esthetics and the Soviet theatre and music are deliberately held back.

Russian text:

V nem ukorenilas takaya praktika: v pechat prodvigalis raboty, ne imeyushchie aktualnogo znachenia, -- takie, naprimer, kak 'Istoria drevnerusskoy tserkovnoy muzyki' -- a raboty na vashneishie temy marksistsko-leninskoy estetiki, o sovetskoy muzyke i teatre iskusstvenno saderzhvalis.

Industrial Activities: Continued criticism of "misleading" average production indices, unrhythmic (neritmicheskie) plant operations and limited assortment of manufactures dominate the output on industry. Another major object of criticism is the intolerably slow progress in the improvement of production quality. As PRAVDA pointed out on 23 January, there are still too many industrial units and even entire branches of industry which "violate the plan in respect of quality and assortment and tolerate rejects" (narushayut sadania po kachestvu i sortnosti i dopuskayut brak). An artifice adopted by a number of plants and, according to the same paper, not yet eliminated is the concentration on the output of simple items at the expense of complicated ones. This method usually assures a favorable quantitative production index at the end of a certain period, but at the same time violates the plan in regard to the range of products specified for each plant. RADYANSKA UKRAINA's complaint (20 January) is low production efficiency in the construction, building materials, light and other industries. There are shortcomings elsewhere in the Ukrainian industry, the paper intimates, but the situation in the above-named branches is referred to as "particularly unsatisfactory" (osoblyvo nesadovolno).

Reviving the theme of the need to mechanize industry on 20 January, PRAVDA refers to the "unbusinesslike attitude" (beskhozaisvennoye otnoshenie) prevailing in industry toward technical equipment and further mechanization of production. This mechanization "must be accompanied" (dolzhno soprovozhdatsya) by the "release" (osvobozhdenie) of part of the workers for work elsewhere, in new plants. But certain industrial leaders, the paper complains, prefer to disregard the benefits arising out of greater production efficiency and continue to organize their work "as in old times, by large-scale application of manual work" (po-starinke--s shirokim primeneniem ruchnogo truda).

A Zeynshenko article broadcast from Stavropol on 22 January says that achievements in the field of industry and cultural and housing construction cannot be considered satisfactory "by any criterion." The two largest Stavropol town enterprises failed to fulfill their 1952 annual plan, and do not show any improvement this year. There are "serious shortcomings" in the work of construction organizations and communal enterprises (kommunalnoye khozaistvo):

Many enterprises are still working sporadically which inevitably entails defective production, deterioration of production quality and increased production costs.

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1952 Plan Fulfillment: The summary of industrial progress released by the Central Statistical Administration on 23 January shows an 11 percent increase in over-all production over 1951 as compared with the 16 percent increase of 1951 over 1950. This comparative decrease from the previous year, however, is not necessarily indicative of an absolute drop in production since the 1952 figure (11 percent) is related to a presumably larger industrial base than the 16 percent of 1951. In terms of the Five Year Plan, on the other hand, the production decrease registered in 1952 is absolute to the extent that it is lower than the average increase of 12 percent provided by the Plan.

Lumber production still appears to be one of the weakest links in the Soviet production chain having shown a further lag behind the plan in 1952 (90 percent) than during the previous year (94 percent). Compared to 1951 again, the 1952 industrial performance shows a slow-down in the tempo of industries which hitherto have been consistently fulfilling and even exceeding their production goals. They are: heavy machine-building, transportation machine building and agricultural machine building.

In agriculture the only absolute figures given refer to the number of machines--tractors, combines and trucks--added to the machine-tractor station pool. Agricultural yields are familiarly presented in comparative percentage terms with the exception of the sugar-beet crop which is said to have amounted to over 27 million tons in 1951. There is no indication as to the size of the 1952 crop.

No explanation is offered for the smaller increment in the labor force of the national economy (narodnoye khozastvo). The 1952 total of 41.7 million workers was 900 thousand larger than the 1951 number which in turn was 1.6 million greater than in 1950. Although not specifically stated, the total labor force mentioned appears to include also state farm (sovkhoz) laborers in addition to white collar, professionals and scientific workers.

Of some interest is the reference to the average 1952 income per worker and farmer as compared to that of 1951 in "comparable prices" (v sopostavimyykh tsenakh). In 1951 the financial income per worker as well as the financial and material income per farmer were on the whole 10 percent higher than in 1950. In 1952, according to the report, the worker's income was 7 percent and the farmer's 8 percent higher than in 1950.

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